

MAY 24 1993

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 24, 1993

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

Reference: **NPRM-PR Docket 92-235**

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FCC - MAIL ROOM

Dear Sir,

Since January of this year you have been receiving comments regarding your Docket 92-235 from a large group of concerned radio control modeling enthusiasts who normally operate on 80 FCC authorized frequencies in the areas of 72 and 75 MHz. It is my opinion that rule making action resulting from Docket 92-235 could have a serious and detrimental impact on future radio control hobby activities.

As a point of background information I have been involved in radio control modeling since 1951, at which time I joined the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). During the period 1979 until 1983, I was Chairman of the AMA R/C Frequency Committee at a time when we were actively campaigning for new and exclusive (for our use) R/C channels. The good news back then (12/82) was that you offered us 80 new channels. The bad news was that they were smack in the middle of our existing few channels and they were certainly not exclusive. I can't begin to tell you the effort it took to carefully phase out the old channels while gradually introducing the new ones. At the same time the radio control industry had to do their part by developing all new equipment that would safely operate on the tighter channel spacing assignments. After all that, it was still necessary to convince everyone that they had to basically junk their existing R/C equipment in favor of new, more sophisticated and **more expensive** equipment. As Technical Editor of FLYING MODELS magazine (a nationally circulated publication), I wrote articles literally for years

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trying to convince our readers (modelers) that the FCC truly acted in our best interest and that once in place our future would be guaranteed.

Well just as we retired the last of our old equipment, along comes Docket 92-235. The overall reasons for the docket are noteworthy. You can't argue about the growing needs for future radio spectrum. But the fact of the matter is that this docket could not have come at a worse time for the R/C modeler. As a result of the release of your docket, sales of radio control equipment have significantly dropped off. Many modelers understandably are taking a wait and see attitude. That places the pressure on all the local hobby shops around